



August 2020

Dear Drew Families and Staff,

I hope you are enjoying a uniquely wonderful summer. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school year with your Drew school community. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing community and I look forward to spending the year learning alongside our staff, students, and parents. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education. Most of all, I look forward to all the new learning opportunities and adventures that will continue to prepare us for our future.

Personally, I want to acknowledge that we have all been anxious to learn what the new school year might look like. We also know that the news of being virtual for the first semester may provide a sense of assurance to some and a further challenge to others. I know, both as a mom and educator, that I was hoping for a different pandemic outcome by the end of the summer.

MCPS believes that it is responsible and critical to base the decision to go virtual on what will best ensure the health and wellness of our students and staff. For those of us who serve in public education, we will always prefer to have our students engaged in classroom-based learning, but given current conditions, it would be unsafe to have significant numbers of students and staff on site at Drew and across the system. I know that there is no true replacement for face-to-face learning and the interaction between a student and a dedicated teacher or staff member and we will be working collaboratively with you to re-imagine “Virtual Drew” together.

During the final weeks of summer, we are creating a comprehensive virtual learning model which will be different from the student learning experience of this past spring. Our goal is to be prepared to engage students across all content areas to ensure students have a robust learning experience. We will continue to share more details in the days ahead as we finalize schedules and assign students to classrooms. We appreciate those who submitted feedback about your Spring learning experiences to help us customize our plans for Drew.

During the first weeks of school, you can expect your children to have dedicated time to connect with their teachers, become oriented to the myMCPS platform and Zoom conferencing, and participate in activities that support interconnectedness with their classroom and school community. Students will follow a regular weekly schedule and will have consistent live interaction with their teachers. Grades will be given and attendance will be taken in the morning and in the afternoon. Finally, families and staff can expect frequent communication updates in *The Splash*, our school communication tool which is typically sent on

Sunday evenings. Please make sure your contact information is always up to date in Synergy so you don't miss anything- more information coming soon. Additionally, we encourage you to register for MCPS [quicknotes](#) for additional system information. Our staff is working tirelessly to make the transition to comprehensive virtual learning as smooth as possible for everyone.

In preparing for the school year, I have highlighted a few “fun facts” below to help you transition back to school including: Upcoming Events, Tips for Virtual Learning, specific Zoom login information, and the Staff Roster. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any other questions. Your thoughts and opinions are valued and we are collaboratively committed to the partnership for success.

Sincerely,

Meredith Casper

Dr. Charles Drew ES, Principal

Save the Dates- Upcoming Events

Getting Ready for School: Parents and Students
August 25: Welcome to Drew: Information session to prepare for the school year Time: 10, 2 or 7 - Parents will choose one presentation, a presentation will be recorded to be viewed at a later time in the parent myMCPS classroom. Target Audience: Parents/Guardians Zoom Meeting: https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/96523402426?pwd=T3MzaW5UT29KK29LM2xSbmZ3ZkVFOT09 Meeting ID: 965 2340 2426 Passcode: 952805
August 27: Sneak Peek: Quick Meet and Greet Time: Offered between 2:00 and 4:00*; Kindergarten BSN will be held from 2 to 3 Target Audience Students Zoom Meeting/ Passcode: *See child's canvas classroom for specifics for your grade
Week of August 31 <i>“Morning Announcement/ Office Hours” Links are Below</i>
August 31st: First Day of School Morning Announcements 8:30 a.m. Classroom Instruction (log in at 8:55)
September 1: Parent Office Hours 2 p.m.
September 2: School Spirit/ Drew Wear or School Colors (Teal/White) Student Office Hours 2:00 p.m. (social time) Parent Office Hours 5:00 p.m.
September 3: Morning Announcement 8:30 a.m. PTSA meeting 7 - 8:00 p.m.
September 4: Early Release

Week of September 7

- September 7: Holiday: No School
- September 8: Parent Office Hours 12:00 p.m.
PTSA Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Back to School Night Gr. 1- 5, SCB 7:00 p.m.
- September 9: Student Office Hours 12:00 - 12:30
Parent: Instrumental Music Overview 11:30 - 12:15 or 6:00 - 7:00 (Gr. 4 or 5)
Parent Office Hours 5:00 - 5:30
- September 10: Morning Announcements 8:30
- September 11: Student Office Hours 3:30

Notes:

1. Links to Morning Announcements, Parent Office Hours and Student Office Hours are below and in the parent canvas classroom.

Drew: Student Day

Instructional Day

- Start of the Student Morning
 - Log in: 8:55 a.m.
 - Instruction Begins: 9:00 a.m.
- Universal Lunch: 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.
- Start of the Student Afternoon
 - Log in: 12:55
 - Instruction Begins: 1:00 p.m.
- End of the Student Day: 3:15 p.m.

Notes:

1. A specific Drew student full day schedule will be released upon BOE approval on/about August 26, 2020.

Virtual Learning Tips

Getting Ready for Class

- Work with your family to find a quiet space that won't disturb other people in your house and won't distract you from learning (preferably in a different room than your bedroom)
- Prepare your learning space. Make sure you have a clear workspace to write and store your materials.
- If there are items that have personal information that you wouldn't want other people to see, move them out of camera range.
- Check your lighting so your teacher and classmates can see you.
- Check to see that your first and last name are on the screen.
- Make sure you have completed the pre-class activity so you will be ready to learn.
- Think about your goal for learning today. What do you want to do better?

During Class

- Ask clarifying questions so you fully understand the assignment.
- Listen carefully to others and ask good questions.
- Use the reaction buttons to let your classmates know when you agree or disagree and give them a thumbs-up or a round of applause to encourage them.
- The hand raising button helps all of us know when you've got something to say.
- When you are not speaking, mute your microphone. It helps other people focus on the speaker.
- Turn off notifications from email and social media so you are not distracted.
- If you have a smartphone or other technology, shut it down so you are not distracted.

As Class is Wrapping Up

- Review the goals you set for today. Did you meet them?
- Check to make sure you understand the assigned tasks.
- Make sure you know how to access assigned learning tasks to prepare for the next class.

After Class

- Complete the assigned tasks
- Submit the assigned tasks.
- Leave your work space clean and ready for the next class.

Connecting with Drew Elementary School



**Ms. Casper
&
Mrs. Yates**



“Our kids, our school, our community” We are in this together.

The Passcode for each session is: Drew

Mondays	8:30 - 8:50 a.m.	Morning Announcements	Zoom: https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/93068793636?pwd=SzkwYjVuS1dKblJwTWltVUNRMll1dz09 Meeting ID: 930 6879 3636
Tuesdays	12:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Admin Office Hours for Parents	Zoom: https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/95146390156?pwd=SF11OGNnWGxOdXJvcWdrWkpsVS8yQT09 Meeting ID: 951 4639 0156
Wednesdays	2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Admin Office Hours For Students	Zoom: https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/91564548514?pwd=YU43UDFBZDRQVkJhbnNJSXhabXdxUT09 Meeting ID: 915 6454 8514
	5:00-5:30 p.m.	Admin Office Hours for Parents	Zoom: https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/93343674573?pwd=bTBNCeE9IL2dtT2VDQjhSYmhrSU9nUT09 Meeting ID: 933 4367 4573
Thursdays	8:30 - 8:50 a.m.	Morning Announcements	Zoom: (same login information as Mondays) https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/93068793636?pwd=SzkwYjVuS1dKblJwTWltVUNRMll1dz09 Meeting ID: 930 6879 3636
Fridays	3:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Admin Office Hours for Students	Zoom: https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/91783163562?pwd=NkNnTXN2WWxpV0xkRXMyaXVEY3pCUT09 Meeting ID: 917 8316 3562

Staff Roster



<p><u>Principal:</u> Meredith Casper <u>Assistant Principal:</u> Lita Yates</p> <p><u>OFFICE STAFF</u> Nicole Nichols - Attendance Secretary Michele Whiting - Admin.Secretary</p> <p><u>HEALTH ROOM</u> Medhanit Kifle- Nurse Teresa Sherwood- Technician</p> <p><u>STUDENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL</u> Keena Howell- Pupil Personnel Worker Lan Nguyen- Parent Community Coordinator Dr. Tamie Smith- Psychologist</p> <p><u>STAFF SUPPORT</u> Ashley Dickerson - Reading Specialist Jessica Graber - Staff Development Jackie Skandalis - Math Content Coach Timothy Skillings - School Counselor</p> <p><u>SPECIAL AREA TEACHERS</u> Kristen Forman - Art Allison Hemme - Media Specialist Daniella Krohn - Instrumental Music Elizabeth Leighton - Art (.1) Shelly Mauck- Music Lauren Rinker - Physical Education Jennifer Taylor - Music (.1) Gaston Zossoungbo - PE/Adaptive PE (.3)</p> <p><u>CAFETERIA</u> Elsy Flores - Cafeteria Assistant Josefa Flores - Manager</p> <p><u>RELATED SERVICE PROVIDERS</u> Sharon Johnson - Occupational Therapist Tracy Mcguire-Rossetti - Physical Therapist Evelyn Oliveira - Speech/Lang Pathologist Erica Roberson- Speech/Lang Pathologist Sybil Yaver- Occupational Therapist</p>	<p><u>PRE-K</u> Shalini Komal</p> <p><u>Head Start</u> Allyson Levine</p> <p><u>KINDERGARTEN</u> Tiffanie Arnold Lacey Moradel Karen Schlueter</p> <p><u>FIRST GRADE</u> Joni Osterhout Ashley Wilkinson Lauren Yachera</p> <p><u>SECOND GRADE</u> Jennifer Ahmed-Morton Lauren Berry Sarah Bridegum</p> <p><u>THIRD GRADE</u> Kim Hartke Juniole Justilien Lydia Tippet</p> <p><u>FOURTH GRADE</u> Judith Blackman (CES) Kim Leichtling (CES) Corey Logsdon Teresa Somin</p> <p><u>FIFTH GRADE</u> Jessica Bain (CES) Stephanie Fernatt David Fish (CES) Stephanie Russo</p> <p><u>BUILDING SERVICES</u> Anthony Beckford Jose Macia - Manager Carolina Martinez Gary Omeir Aaron Ruffin – Assist. Manager</p>	<p><u>SPECIAL EDUCATION & ESOL TEACHERS</u> Cara Flanders - ESOL Lisa Orifici - ESOL Carmen Soriano-Garcia - ESOL Cara Flanders - ESOL</p> <p>Theresa Bohlinger - SPED Meghan Buchannon- SPED Dawn Traub - SPED HS/ PreK Claire Wilk - Academic Support</p> <p>Rebecca Du - SCB Ekan Gilpin - SCB Jessica Gray - SCB Laura Hellman - SCB Jacob Houy - SCB</p> <p><u>SUPPORTING SERVICES</u> Susan Ehrenspeck - Media Assist.</p> <p><u>PARAEDUCATORS</u> Amtul Ahmed Caryn Becker Whitney Beng Maya Butler Alexandra Christopher Sara Durose Connie Edsinger Michele Fuentes Jacqueline Gray Marley Hein Pamela Henderson Alicia Holmes Carmen Jackson Malika Jackson Mary Beth Jalickee Miriam McCabe Mary Oliver Tim Roderick Patricia Sigley Mary Suto Deb Tivvis Kim Waterworth</p>
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